

# IMPROVING LIVES

## One Class at a Time

2002 2003 South Carolina Adult Education Annual Report



*Making a Difference  
in South Carolina*

# IMPROVING LIVES

**FOR MORE THAN 116,000 STUDENTS IN OUR STATE,** *Adult Education has been key to improving their lives. Because they know that education produces economic opportunity, these adult learners strive to achieve success in the classroom primarily because they want to improve their literacy levels, enter the job market, get a better job, or just retain their current position. Today, one out of every five adults with high school completion credentials in South Carolina earned his or her certification through Adult Education programs.*

## ON OUR COVER, TOP TO BOTTOM

*Jeremy Moon,  
recently awarded  
his GED through  
Rock Hill's Adult  
Education Program*

*Proud to be another  
Adult Ed graduate!*

*Adult Ed student  
takes advantage of  
the local library  
bookmobile service  
that promotes adult  
reading*

*Teachers attend  
GED Teacher  
Academy to prepare  
to teach adult high  
school completers*

*Student by student, class by class, Adult Education provides the critical link these adults need to enhance their lives. This statewide task is monumental.*

*The coordination of tens of thousands of students, trained teachers in every county, and hundreds of courses and initiatives for non-English-speaking students, to name a few examples, requires collaboration, creativity, and perseverance. Despite tight resources, Adult Education continues to gain ground in meeting the needs of its learners.*

*Please take a moment to reflect on 2003's accomplishments and challenges captured in this report. Adult Education, as you can see, is making a huge impact on the economic picture of South Carolina. Please support us in our efforts.*



**Inez M. Tenenbaum** *South Carolina Superintendent of Education*



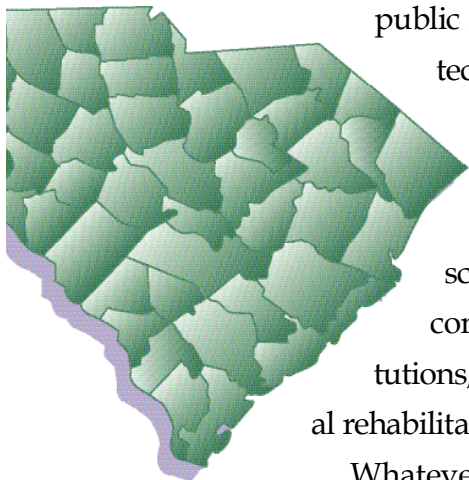
# 2003

## ADULT EDUCATION: IN EVERY SOUTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY

**Reaching thousands. Learners fit a number of profiles.** Most desire to earn a high school credential, but they enroll for various reasons. They may need skills to enter the job market, or obtain a better job, or even keep the position they have. Improving their employability often means being able to leave public assistance. Some want to further their education at technical or four-year colleges. Some just want to be able to read to their children and help with their homework assignments.

Adult Education serves students in public school districts, community organizations and centers, correctional institutions, city and county jails, technical colleges, and vocational rehabilitation programs throughout the state.

Whatever the incentive and wherever the learner lives, Adult Education works to offer leadership, training, technical assistance, monitoring, and evaluation so that providers in every community can effectively serve each student.

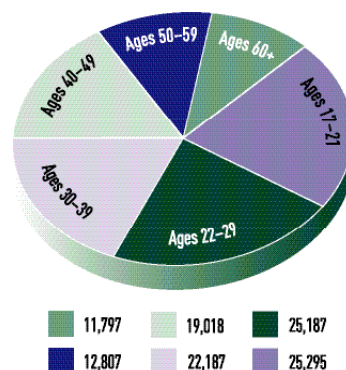


*One-on-one tutoring is offered in community-based programs in locales statewide.*

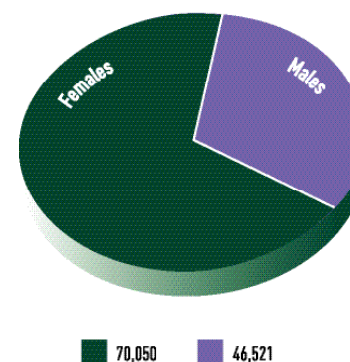


*Graduation day is a milestone of accomplishment for adult learners.*

### S.C. ADULT EDUCATION ENROLLMENT: 2002-03 BY AGE GROUP



### BY GENDER



2003

## ADULT EDUCATION: IN EVERY SOUTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY

2002

**Offering Instructional Services.** Programs and services coordinated through Adult Education include:

■ **Adult Basic Education (ABE)**

Serving students who function at the elementary and middle school level in reading and mathematics

■ **High School Diploma Program**

Offered through public school districts. To receive this diploma, students must meet the same requirements as those graduating from a traditional South Carolina high school program.

■ **General Educational Development (GED)**

Providing a diploma and based on the GED Tests which cover language arts (reading and writing), social studies, science, and math

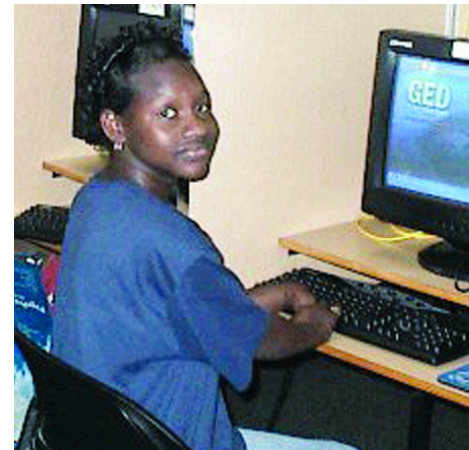
■ **English Literacy (EL)**

Offering instruction in English for those adults whose native language is not English or who

have difficulty speaking, reading, writing, or understanding English



*Family literacy programs are an integral part of Adult Ed, providing both parent and child with opportunities to learn new academic and social skills.*



*Skills labs assist students in GED preparation and computer literacy instruction at 23 Voc Rehab centers throughout the state.*

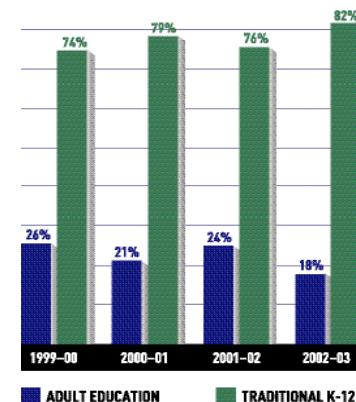
■ **Computer Literacy**

Helping students understand the basics of operating a computer or learn specific software applications to prepare for the job market

■ **Family Literacy**

Working in conjunction with the Office of Early Childhood Education to provide literacy services to parents of children participating in early childhood programs that receive state and federal funding

**ANNUAL PERCENTAGES OF SC HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION**



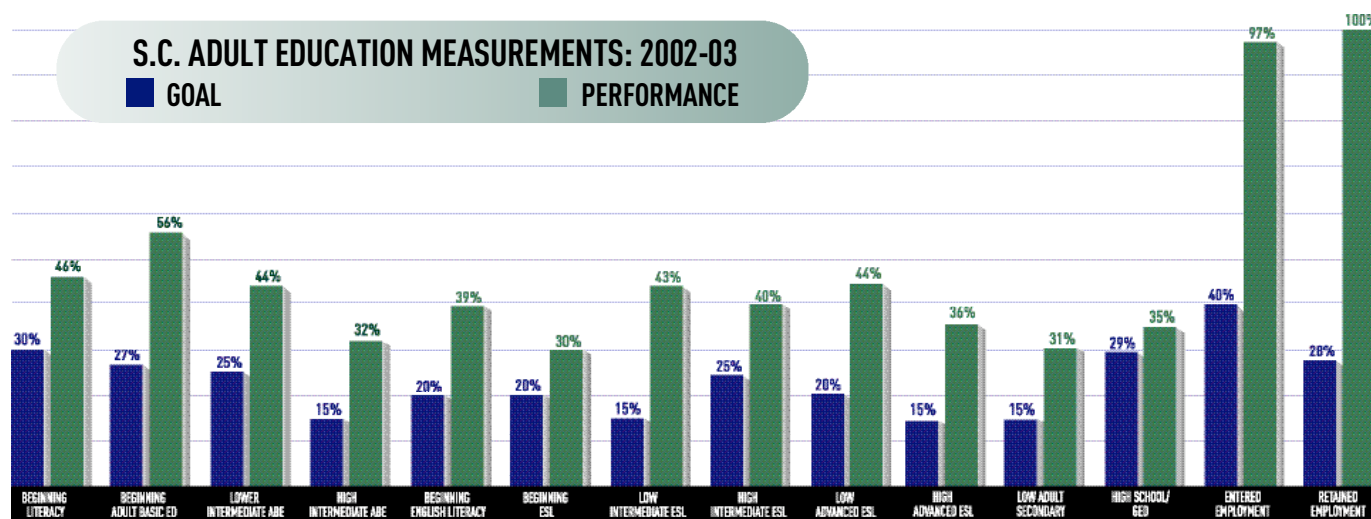
# 2003 A YEAR OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CHALLENGES

**Training Teachers.** Four Regional Adult Education Technical Assistance Centers (*RAETACs*) provide ongoing training opportunities to the instructors and directors based on the needs of the region. The RAETACs are located in **Greenville (Region 1)**, **Columbia (Region 2)**, **Summerville (Region 3)**, and **Florence (Region 4)**. More than 600 full-time, part-time, and volunteer teachers in the state are currently carrying out Adult Education's mission.

The GED Teacher Academy trains teachers how to effectively teach the five academic areas on the GED test, so that students will be well prepared to take and pass the official test.

**Teaching English.** Over the past decade, South Carolina's Hispanic population has increased more than 200 percent. Adult Education provides English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) classes to these Spanish speakers as well as to those speaking 16 other foreign languages statewide. Mostly, these students are seeking employment in the United States and/or further schooling.

**Exceeding Goals.** This past year, the performance of South Carolina's adult learners exceeded the federal performance measures on every function level. As part of the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998, each state is required to negotiate performance standards for each educational functioning level with the US Department of Education's Office of Vocational and Adult Education and report their measurements annually. As a result of last year's performance, South Carolina was recognized with federal incentive funds.





2003

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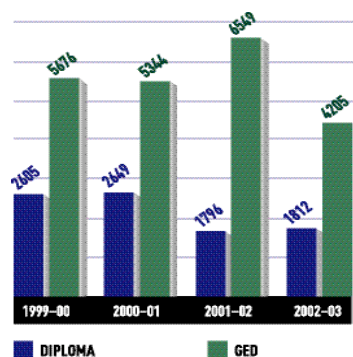
**Partnership with High Schools.** Adult Education oversees the largest high school dropout retrieval program in the state. Last year, 18 percent of all high school credentials awarded in South Carolina were given through Adult Education.

**Partnership with Technical Education.** Research shows that only 15 percent of today's jobs require minimum skills—a high school diploma or less. About 70 percent of fast-growing jobs will require education beyond high school, and 40 percent of all new jobs will require at least an associate college degree.

To address this reality, the state Department of Education and the state's Technical College System signed a first-ever partnership agreement in fall 2003 to eliminate duplication, improve recruitment and retention, and offer a more seamless adult education delivery system. Through this partnership, turf battles over who will do the job are eliminated, and adult learners will be the winners.

Students who would like to further their education at the technical college level can participate in the Skills Institute, a 60-hour instructional program teaching basic math and reading skills. Institute classes, taught on technical college campuses, prepare them for the technical college entrance exam and are offered each semester to any student wanting a refresher before testing.

## SC ADULT EDUCATION HIGH SCHOOL CREDENTIALS EARNED



*Adult classes are available at prisons and jails across South Carolina.*

**Partnership with Vocational Education.** Through a partnership with SC Vocational Rehabilitation, adult education classes are now offered at all Voc Rehab centers statewide. This partnership allows a greater number of Voc Rehab clients to be served conveniently on site.

**Partnership with Corrections.** Adult Education serves a number of individuals in local jails and state correctional institutions.



**GED Coach.** A mobile classroom with computer workstations is helping students across the state, especially those in rural areas, prepare for GED testing and receive basic academic skills instruction. In 2003, it served all 46 counties.

**GED Hotline.** This phone line, 1-800-277-7323, provides any state resident information about GED prep classes and their locations. It refers potential students to local adult education programs and gives updates on GED requirements and courses.

**Special Challenges for Adult Education.** The past year saw the escalation of issues such as providing for more English-as-a-Second-Language programs and ever-tightening sources of funding.

As more learners recognize the need to advance their education, Adult Education will continue to monitor enrollment and adapt and add programs to equip learners for life skills and the workplace. To



*To meet NCLB guidelines, teaching assistants from K-12 schools complete a paraprofessional training program sponsored by Adult Ed.*

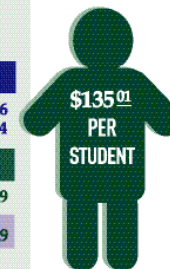


*The Coach mobile classroom helps provide GED preparation to all 46 counties, especially rural areas.*

maintain adaptability, it must attract and retain quality teachers year after year. It will maintain its role as a major pipeline to secondary education for South Carolina students.

A constant goal is to communicate to South Carolinians what services are provided and where they are located—information of interest to both the learner and the employer. Adult Education continues to collaborate with the business community and local agencies to improve the quality of life for these learners and ultimately the entire state.

SOUTH CAROLINA ADULT EDUCATION Revenue Sources: 2002-03	
<b>FEDERAL</b>	
Adult Education	\$ 7,848,616
English Literacy/Civics	\$ 188,004
<b>STATE</b>	
State Revenue	\$ 9,781,609
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$17,818,229</b>



# IMPROVING LIVES

## One Class at a Time

Mrs. Eloise King is 85 years old and an Adult Education student in Rock Hill, SC.



*Making a Difference  
in South Carolina*

**Office of Adult and Community Education**  
**South Carolina Department of Education**

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[www.sde.state.sc.us/offices/ace](http://www.sde.state.sc.us/offices/ace)



**Inez M. Tenenbaum** *State Superintendent of Education*

**Calvin Jackson** *Deputy Superintendent, Division of District & Community Services*

**Cherry Daniel** *Director, Office of Adult & Community Education*